

REMARKS

This Amendment, submitted in response to the Office Action dated October 26, 2004, is believed to be fully responsive to each point of rejection raised therein. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

Claims 31, 34 and 59-64 remain pending in the application. Claims 61 and 62 have been deemed allowable over the art of record, but have been objected to for depending on rejected base claims. Claims 31, 34, 60 and 63-64 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Karellas (U.S.P. 5,864,146) in view of Itoh et al (U.S.P. 4,597,012). Claim 59 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Karellas in view of Itoh and further in view of Takahashi (U.S.P. 5,059,794).

To expedite prosecution of this case, Applicant cancels claims 31 and 34 from the application and rewrites allowable claims 61 and 62 in independent form. Applicant further amends claim 59 to depend upon claim 61 and claim 60 to depend on claim 62. Applicant submits that that amendments should be allowed since they place the application in condition for allowance.

With regard to the claims 63 and 64, Applicant submits that Karellas does not teach detection of recording light to obtain a preliminary read out signal.

The Examiner's rejection refers to the detection of prompt scintillation to teach the feature of a solid image sensor exhibiting electric photoconductivity upon exposure to recording light (Karellas, col. 37, lines 8-21). However, the cited column describes prompt scintillation as detection of stimulated emissions from the phosphor sheet. Assuming *arguendo* that such prompt emissions from the stimuable phosphor comprise "momentary light" emitted from the

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
U.S. Appln. No.: 10/714,850

sheet as described by cancelled claims 31 and 34, these emissions cannot constitute recording light as described in claims 63 and 64. Accordingly, Karellas fails to teach recording light directly detected to obtain the preliminary read out signal. Therefore, Applicant would maintain that claims 63 and 64 are patentable over Karellas and Itoh.

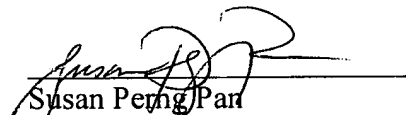
In view of the above, Applicant submits that claims 59-64 are in condition for allowance. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the subject application be passed to issue at the earliest possible time. The Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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